

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 165240

60

ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 OMB-01 /066 R

DRAFTED BY EA/TB:JDEXTER:AVW

8/20/73 23698

APPROVED BY EA:AWHUMMEL

EA/LC:LMRIVES

----- 004366

O P 202239Z AUG 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE PRIORITY

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

S E C R E T STATE 165240

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS,PGOV, LA, TB

SUBJECT: ATTEMPTED COUP IN VIENTIANE

REFS: (A) BANGKOK 12916, (B) VIENTIANE 5789

(C) VIENTIANE 5798

WE JUDGE FROM REF (A) AND FROM PRESS REPORTS OF THANOM'S MESSAGE TO SOUVANNA THAT THE RTG IS ANXIOUS TO REASSURE THE RLG THAT IT DID NOT HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE AUGUST 20 COUP ATTEMPT. WE ARE SOMEWHAT CONCERNED, HOWEVER, OVER THE POSSIBILITY THAT MANY LAO WILL CONTINUE TO BELIEVE, AS REPORTED REF (B), THE COUP ATTEMPT HAD SOME TYPE OF SUPPORT FROM SOME THAI ELEMENTS. WE SUGGEST THEREFORE THAT YOU URGE RTG TO FOLLOW-UP ITS ASSURANCES OF NON-COMPLICITY WITH A THOROUGH AND VIGOROUS INVESTIGATION OF ALL THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE LAUNCHING OF THE COUP GROUP FROM THAI TERRITORY. THE RLG MUST CERTAINLY BE CURIOUS TO KNOW WHAT PREPARATIONS GENERAL THAO MA AND HIS ASSOCIATES MADE IN THAILAND AND WHETHER ANY THAI INDIVI-

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 165240

DUALS WERE INVOLVED WITH THEM. WE THINK THE RTG ALSO OUGHT

TO INVESTIGATE THE REPORT CONVEYED REF (C) THAT COLONEL  
BOUNLEUT AND THREE OTHERS CROSSED BY BOAT INTO THAILAND  
AFTER COUP ATTEMPT HAD FAILED. WE ASSUME RLG WOULD EXPECT  
SEVERE MEASURES TO BE TAKEN AGAINST ANY THAI WHO MAY HAVE  
BEEN INVOLVED AND WOULD WANT EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO BE DONE  
TO APPREHEND BOUNLEUT AND ANY OTHER COUP PARTICIPANTS IF  
THEY IN FACT IN THAILAND. ROGERS

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 AUG 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973STATE165240  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** JDEXTER:AVW  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS HUMMEL  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730827/aaaaathl.tel  
**Line Count:** 68  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ORIGIN EA  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** (A) BANGKOK 12916, (B) VIENTIANE 578, 9  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** morefirh  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 DEC 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <05-Dec-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <28 FEB 2002 by morefirh>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ATTEMPTED COUP IN VIENTIANE  
**TAGS:** PINS, PGOV, LA  
**To:** BANGKOK  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005